

Amendments to the Claims:

Please cancel claims 3-5, 7-10, 12-16, and 18-19 without prejudice to prosecution of the subject matter of these claims in continuation or divisional applications.

Please amend claims 2, 20, and 21 so that the claims read as follows:

1. (canceled)
2. (currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a nerve growth factor (NGF) at a concentration ~~ranging from 0.07 to 20~~ of 0.1 mg/ml, 136 mM sodium chloride, 0.9 % (v/v) benzyl alcohol, and a pharmaceutically acceptable acetate-containing buffer, wherein the buffer contains an 20 mM sodium acetate ion concentration of between 5 and 30 mM at about pH 5.5, and wherein the pharmaceutical composition is effective to retain its efficacy for greater than six months when stored at about 5 °C.
- 3-10. (canceled)
11. (original) The composition of claim 2, further comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable surfactant.
- 12-16. (canceled)
17. (original) The composition of claim 2, wherein the nerve growth factor is 118 amino acid NGF.
- 18-19. (canceled)
20. (currently amended) The composition of claim ~~48~~ 17, wherein the nerve growth factor is 118/118 rhNGF.
21. (currently amended) The composition of claim ~~48~~ 2, wherein the nerve growth factor is secreted and purified from Chinese hamster ovary cells.